

SUMMER READING 2021 - FRANKLIN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Middle School Summer Reading Recommendations

- ★ Acclaimed author **Aisha Saeed** is scheduled to visit us in November!
 - We recommend that students read (or listen to) one of her [books](#) this summer.
- ★ We hope students read at least one other book of their choice. Check out our recommendations below.
- ★ Sharing a book you read is a great way to connect with new teachers and peers in the fall.
 - We recommend that students take brief notes on their favorite title to keep their memory fresh.



Young Adult literature can encompass mature topics. Parents should review selections for suitability.

Tried-and-True Titles

Between Shades of Gray Sepetys
Holes Sachar
Lily and Dunkin Gephart
Ghost Boys Rhodes
Boy 21 Quick
The Honest Truth Gemeinhart
All American Boys Reynolds, Kiely
Freak the Mighty Philbrick
Endangered Schreier
The War That Saved My Life Bradley
Clean Getaway Stone
Rain Reign Martin
The List of Things That Will Not Change Stead
Drums Girls & Dangerous Pie Sonnenblick



REALISTIC/HISTORICAL FICTION FAVORITES

The Line Tender Allen
Darius the Great is Not Okay Khorram
Other Words For Home Wurga
Ghost Reynolds
Checked Kadohata
Swagger Deuker
The Truth as Told by Mason Buttle Connor
Fighting Words Bradley
Garvey's Choice Grimes
Miles Morales: Spiderman Reynolds
House Arrest Holt
From the Desk of Zoe Washington Marks
Counting by 7s Sloan
Endangered Schreier



BEST GRAPHIC NOVELS

White Bird Palacio
Hey, Kiddo Krosoczka
When Stars Are Scattered Jamieson, Mohamed
Pashmina Chanani
New Kid Craft
The Graveyard Book Gaiman
The Prince and the Dressmaker Wang



Nonfiction Favorites

Just Mercy (YA edition) Stevenson
The 57 Bus Slater
A High Five for Glenn Burke Bildner
The Librarian of Auschwitz Iturbe
Trevor Noah: Born a Crime Noah
Chasing Space Melvin
The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind Kamkwamba



VISITING AUTHOR - AISHA SAEED



This November, we will welcome acclaimed YA author Aisha Saeed to Franklin. She will spend a full day at each of our three middle schools and join us for an evening event the whole family can enjoy. She's excited to virtually visit our community and interact with our readers!

[Visit her website](#) for more about Ms. Saeed and her titles.



Fantasy/Mystery Favorites

The Cousins McManus
The Jumbies Baptiste
The Leaving Altebrando
Among the Hidden Haddix
A Monster Calls Ness
The Girl I Used to Be Henry
I am Princess X Priest
A Curse So Dark and Lonely Kemmerer



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The Franklin Public Schools' and Franklin Public Library's summer reading programs are designed to foster a joy of reading and serve as an opportunity to explore different literary genres. This summer we are partnering with families to convey the many benefits of reading and provide access to engaging, entertaining, and thought-provoking titles.

OUR SINGLE GREATEST RESPONSIBILITY IS TO GROW READERS.



The benefits of summer reading are too numerous to list, but here are a few:

- Reading has proven to be 300% better at reducing stress than going for a walk and 700% more effective than playing video games. (National Library Trust)
- The advancement of reading comprehension skills and development of vocabulary are directly tied to the work readers do during independent reading. (NCTE)
- Students who read for pleasure are more apt to demonstrate a positive attitude towards reading and increase their reading habit. (National Library Trust)
- The summer activity most strongly and consistently related to summer learning is independent reading. (ala.org)
- It is imperative to give adequate time to independent, self-selected reading. (ala.org)
- Reading increases background knowledge, vocabulary, writing skills, fluency, comprehension, and social-emotional skills such as empathy. (NCTE)

How adults can help reinforce these recommendations

- ★ Franklin Public Library and stores are open and still accepting online orders! Employees are skilled in matching your child with a book they will enjoy.
 - [Franklin Public Library](#)
 - [An Unlikely Story](#)
 - [Barnes and Noble](#)
- ★ Explore sites such as [Amazon](#), [YALSA](#), [Goodreads](#), and [Common Sense Media](#) for lists and recommendations.
- ★ Utilize personal devices with apps such as [Libby](#), [OverDrive](#), and [Hoopla](#) (public library card is required)
- ★ Try audiobooks as a family.
- ★ Implement a device-free time each day to allow kids the time and space for reading.
- ★ Review book choices for suitability for your reader (young adult literature can encompass mature topics and language).
- ★ Read TO and WITH children of ALL ages! Read the same book as your child and engage in discussion.
- ★ Encourage your child to select books of high interest. Allow them to try something different if they aren't enjoying a book.
- ★ Encourage children to explore different genres including poetry, nonfiction, and graphic novels.
- ★ **Aisha Saeed will be visiting all three Franklin middle schools in November. Read one as a family!**